

# *News from the Wyoming Department of Health*

Friday, June 19, 2009

## **Wyoming Cancer Coalition Receives National Award**

The Wyoming Comprehensive Cancer Control Consortium (WCCCC), an advocacy group that works to reduce cancer morbidity and mortality, received recognition from the national C-Change organization with the “Exemplary State Coalition Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan Implementation Award.”

The award was presented by former President George H.W. Bush and former First Lady Barbara Bush in Kennebunkport, Maine to Lisa Eades, WCCCC chairperson and president of the Jason’s Friends Foundation in Casper, Kimberly Rogers, program manager for the Wyoming Department of Health’s Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, and Jessica Perez, Wyoming Department of Health outreach specialist.

The Wyoming Department of Health plays a large role in the coordination and facilitation of coalition efforts throughout the state.

The former president and former first lady are co-chairpersons of C-Change and share the organization’s vision of a future where cancer is prevented, detected early, and cured or is managed successfully as a chronic illness.

“This award is an honor,” says Eades. “The consortium has worked endlessly to ensure all Wyoming men, women and children have access to and knowledge of resources available to them. And more specifically, policy change has become an essential piece of the group’s success with the drafting and implementation of the Wyoming Cancer Control Act of 2007.”

State Representative Ken Esquibel of Cheyenne was also honored by the national group as an exemplary policymaker. In written comments to the former president and former first lady, Esquibel said “I was honored to sponsor legislation this past session to fund five county cancer resource coordinator projects. Because of these coordinators, the citizens of the state of Wyoming have someone they can turn to for help, at a time in their lives when they have so many questions. These caregivers are the true heroes, and the survivors are the true award winners.”

C-Change members will travel to Saratoga in August to attend the WCCCC bi-annual meeting. For more information on the bi-annual meeting or to get involved, contact Perez at [jessica.perez@health.wyo.gov](mailto:jessica.perez@health.wyo.gov) or via telephone at 307-777-7362.

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